

## AGENDA



Thursday, May 3, 2007

**Health and Human Services  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 6

**Subject:** Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Health and Human Service Department Operating Budget Travis County Reimbursed Fund of Ordinance No. 20060911-001, to appropriate revenue from Travis County in the amount of \$71,366 and to increase operating expenditures in the amount of \$71,366 for summer youth employment stipends.

**Amount and Source of Funding:** An amount of \$71,366 is available from the increased expense reimbursement revenue from Travis County.

**Fiscal Note:** A fiscal note is attached.

**For More Information:** Vince Cobalis, Asst. Director for Human Services, 972-5011; Stephanie Y. Hayden, HHSD Manager, 972-5017; Linda Terry, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023.

**Prior Council Action:** Approved Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Operating Budget, September 11, 2006.

**Background:**

The City of Austin and Travis County have entered into several Interlocal agreements governing the joint operation of the Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services Department (HHSD) Programs. Pursuant to these agreements, the City:

1. Incurs operating expenses on behalf of Travis County;
2. Submits monthly invoices to Travis County reflecting operating expenses incurred; and
3. Receives reimbursement for the expenses incurred upon review and processing by Travis County.

HHSD expenses and reimbursements on behalf of Travis County for youth stipends are budgeted in the HHSD Travis County Reimbursed Fund. Although there was discussion about changing this process a few years ago, Travis County is not able to set up payroll systems that will allow them to assume responsibility for this function (1) without a substantial impact on the number of youth served; and (2) major disruptions in the quality of service needed to process payroll for the number of youth in the program. In order for youth to be paid for summer employment, the City of Austin HHSD will continue to pay the youth and be reimbursed by Travis County.

This budget amendment increases HHSD's Travis County expense and revenue reimbursement from \$2,070,591 to \$2,141,957. The additional \$71,366 reimbursement from Travis County will provide stipends for 150 low-income or at-risk youth who will be employed in one of two summer sessions during summer 2007.

The program will assist youth and youth-with-disabilities in gaining valuable work experience and job readiness skills that are required to become self sufficient and productive. The youth will work a 5-week session under the supervision and mentorship of City, County and other eligible employers. These employers will provide guidance to the youth as they gain knowledge of work cultures, ethics and etiquette.